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EDITORIALS

ANNUAL MEETINGS

THE NEXT ANNUAL MEETING OF THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF CRIMINAL LAW AND CRIMINOLOGY WILL BE HELD IN NEW LONDON, CONNECTICUT, NEXT SEPTEMBER 2 AND 3.

THE NEXT ANNUAL MEETING OF THE AMERICAN PRISON ASSOCIATION WILL BE HELD IN NEW YORK CITY NEXT OCTOBER 24-28.

PROGRAM OF THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF CRIMINAL LAW AND CRIMINOLOGY

The American Institute of Criminal Law and Criminology proposes the following program to guide its major activities during a period of five years, or as long as may be necessary to secure results of permanent scientific value. The ultimate aim of the organization in setting forth this program is to secure scientific bases for legislation which the Institute expects to offer, in co-operation with such bodies as the Commission on Uniform State Laws, to the legislatures of various states.

The Institute will not begin operation under this program until the necessary funds shall have been pledged to carry out one or more of the distinct enterprises comprised in the plan as a whole. It is hoped that members and other friends of the organization will carefully consider this project and give their assistance in whatever way may be possible. Suggestions addressed to this JOURNAL will be gratefully received.

The program involves research under five different headings, as follows:

I. THE PAROLE SYSTEM

The follow-up by uniform method in several jurisdictions, and during a period of five years, of groups of prisoners, paroled and later discharged, for the purpose of testing the various methods of determining fitness for parole and the various methods of administration of parole laws.

The purpose of this investigation is to apply the test of behavior during the period of parole and during a considerable period there-

after to the various methods in vogue for selecting individuals for admission to parole. On the basis of data thus secured it is proposed to make recommendations for scientific legislation to the Commission on Uniform State Laws and to the various state legislatures.

The results of this investigation will throw decisive light, one way or the other, upon the ever-recurring question of the effectiveness of parole as a method of dealing with criminals.

II. MENTAL STATUS OF CRIMINALS

The development of practical tests of mental disease and deficiency among adults in courts and prisons, and promotion of scientific legislation to assist in the detection and segregation of the mentally diseased and deficient in the adult criminal population.

To this end it is proposed (1) to bring together in conference leading students in this field for the purpose of reaching an agreement as to (a) the angles of approach, (b) the particular investigations that must be made to this end, (c) the most promising methods of investigation, and (d) the proper division of the total investigation among the conferees.

It is proposed (2) that these conferees shall then return to their own laboratories respectively, and there work out the portion of the general problem assumed by each.

III. STATE SYSTEM OF CRIMINAL RECORDS

The development of a system of criminal records such as may be put into operation by any state.

To this end it is proposed, through co-operation with the authorities of municipalities, counties, and states in selected sections of the country, to accumulate data relating to crime and criminals, and by scientific treatment of such data to demonstrate the need and practicability of workable bureaus of criminal statistics such as should be undertaken by all states, and such as exist in most European countries.

The results of this investigation will furnish a scientific basis for recommendations pertaining to legislation to be made to the Commission on Uniform State Laws and to the various state legislatures.

IV. COMPARATIVE STUDY OF STATE CRIMINAL LAWS

A five-year study of the criminal laws of all the states in co-operation with the Committee on Standardization of Laws of the American Bar Association. The example of the American Social Hygiene Association in securing the adoption of practically uniform

state "White Slave" laws and Injunction and Abatement laws in nearly every state in the Union shows what may be done in that field. No comparative and scientific study of the laws of the states has ever been made, though the need has often been urged.

V. PUBLICITY

Publicity of the results of these investigations to be made through the *Journal of Criminal Law and Criminology*, the official organ of the American Institute of Criminal Law and Criminology, of the American Prison Association, and of the American Society of Military Law; this Journal, or at any rate, reprints therefrom, to be distributed widely among legislators and others in the various states.

PROPOSED BUDGET

The following proposed budget is formulated upon the theory that, in large part, at any rate, those who will be responsible for carrying on the particular projects proposed above are already connected with universities or other research institutions and that such connections may be retained while they are pursuing the program announced. It is assumed that such workers would have to be released from a portion of their responsibilities in their respective institutions, and that they would, therefore, suffer a decrease in salary from the customary sources. The following budget, it is estimated, would make up for the deficiency arising in such manner.

In the case of investigators already attached to other institutions, it is assumed that office rent, and in large part, at any rate, laboratory supplies, would be contributed by their respective institutions.

Project I

To salaries of two full-time investigators at	
\$4,000 a year each.....	\$ 8,000
To clerical and office expenses, \$1,000 a year each	2,000
To travelling expenses, \$1,000 a year each.....	2,000
	<hr/>
	\$12,000

Project II

To salaries of five investigators on half pay at	
\$2,000 a year each.....	10,000
To expenses of five investigators in conference..	500
	<hr/>
	10,500

Project III

To salary of one investigator, half-pay.....	2,000	
To clerical and office expenses.....	1,200	
		<hr/> 3,200

Project IV

Full-time of Secretary or Chairman of Committee charged with the work.....	6,000	
Stenographer	1,200	
Office expenses	1,500	
		<hr/> 8,700

Project V

To publication and mailing the <i>Journal of Criminal Law and Criminology</i> and reprints to legislative committees and legislators, to prepare the way for legislation growing out of the above-mentioned investigations, a year..	3,000	
		<hr/> 3,000
Grand Total		<hr/> \$37,400

COMMITTEE ON PROGRAM

Hugo Pam, President of the Institute, Justice of the Superior Court, Chicago.

John H. Wigmore, Northwestern University.

James H. Tufts, University of Chicago.

James Bronson Reynolds, Voluntary Defender's Committee, New York City.

Frederic B. Crossley, Northwestern University.

Robert H. Gault, Northwestern University.

 THE CHICAGO CRIME COMMISSION

Following the Winslow Brothers pay roll robbery last summer the Chicago Association of Commerce directed its attention to the necessity for taking steps to curb crimes of violence in the City of Chicago. The Association Committee on Prevalence and Prevention of Crime considered the matter in its various phases and as a result a report was made to the Association recommending the formation of a body to be incorporated under the laws of the State of Illinois and to be known as the Chicago Crime Commission. The Commission has